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FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

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Subject:

Sent: 5/2/00 at 2:25:16 PM

Pages: 3 (including cover)

MESSAGE:

From: Jeff Jeep

To: Distribution*

*George Varela, Ed Garsky, Jon Jackson, John J. O'Grady, Stewart Levy, Robert M. Baratta Jr., Mark J. Steger

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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VIA FACSIMILE

May 2, 2000

Mr. George Varela
Carlson Environmental, Inc.
65 East Wacker
Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60601

Re: Fansteel, Inc. - Site Investigation Work Plan

Dear Mr. Varela:

I am writing in regard to the Site Investigation Work Plan, Revised Version 2.1, July 1999, for the property owned by Fansteel, Inc. located at Number One Tantalum Place, North Chicago, Illinois (Work Plan). Robert Baratta, the attorney for the Stack Trust, was kind enough to provide us with a copy of the Work Plan. The Stack Trust, as you will recall, owns the property referred in the Work Plan to as the Vacant Lot. You may also be aware that EMCO Chemical Distributors, Inc. (EMCO) intends to take title to the Vacant Lot from the Stack Trust.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to meet Stuart Levy, EMCO's Director of Operations, at the Vacant Lot. Stuart reported back to me that you had addressed his concern that the location of some of the groundwater monitoring wells, as proposed in an earlier version of the Work Plan, would interfere with EMCO's planned use of the Vacant Lot. From our review of Attachment A to the Work Plan, Figure Two, Proposed Site Sampling Locations (4-2-00), we are pleased to see that four of the six groundwater monitoring wells have been relocated to the east of the common property boundary between Fansteel and the Vacant Lot (the Property Line). The two groundwater monitoring wells located on the west side of the Property Line (the West Wells) appear to be located in areas consistent with your conversation with Mr. Levy. However, because the scale of our copy of Figure Two (1" to 200') does not allow us to locate the precise location of the West Wells, we thought it would be helpful if we confirmed our understanding of their location.

We assume that the depiction on Figure Two of the West Wells as being located immediately adjacent to the Property Line simply reflects the limited detail afforded by the 1" to 200' scale. That is, we know the West Wells must be set back from the Property Line to accommodate the high pressure gas line (the Gas Line) running along the Property Line. It is our understanding that the West Wells will be located as close to the Gas Line as possible, which from our discussions with the engineering department at the North Gas Company, we understand may be as close as ten (10) feet.

We are also unable with our 1" to 200' scale copy of Figure Two to locate the precise distance of the southern-most West Well from 22nd Street (also known as Martin Luther King Drive). During your walk of the Vacant Lot with Mr. Levy, he explained that EMCO intended to construct a parking lot on the southern portion of the Vacant Lot. A grassy area will be constructed between the parking lot and the 22nd Street. Whether the Southern Well is located 50 feet or 15 feet north of 22nd Street (which we are unable to determine from our copy of Figure Two), will determine whether the Southern Well is located

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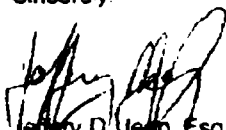
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in the parking lot or in the grassy area. Locating the Southern Well 15 feet from 22nd Street will place the well in the center of the grassy area, an ideal location. It is our understanding that the well will be located 15 to 20 feet north of 22nd Street, ideally in the middle of the future grassy area.

The Work Plan does not refer to the protective barriers around the West Wells or the height of the wells in relation to the existing grade of the Fansteel property, topics you discussed with Mr. Levy. It is our understanding that the tops of the West Wells will be constructed approximately one (1) foot above the current grade of the driveway on the Fansteel property. It is also our understanding that four (4) concrete filled steel pipes will be placed around each of the West Wells as protective barriers.

We would like to thank you again for accommodating our comments regarding the placement of groundwater monitoring wells on the Vacant Lot. Please advise us if your understanding differs from ours in any respect.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey D. Jeep, Esq.
General Counsel

cc: Ed Garsky, Jon Jackson, John J. O'Grady, Stewart Levy, Robert M. Baratta Jr., Mark J. Steger